

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_  
no \_\_\_

Property Name: Blackhal's Hermitage (Clark Farm) Inventory Number: K-121  
Address: 616 Morgnec Road City: Chestertown Zip Code: 21620  
County: Kent USGS Topographic Map: Chestertown  
Owner: Robert and Doris Clark Is the property being evaluated a district? \_\_\_yes  
Tax Parcel Number: 40 Tax Map Number: 37 Tax Account ID Number: 000765  
Project: Chestertown DBM Emergency Services Tower Agency: DBM  
Site visit by MHT Staff: \_\_\_no \_\_\_yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the property located within a historic district? \_\_\_yes x no

*If the property is within a district* District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
NR-listed district \_\_\_yes Eligible district \_\_\_yes District Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no Non-contributing but eligible in another context \_\_\_

*If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)*  
Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible \_\_\_yes x no

Criteria: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D Considerations: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D \_\_\_E \_\_\_F \_\_\_G \_\_\_None  
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form

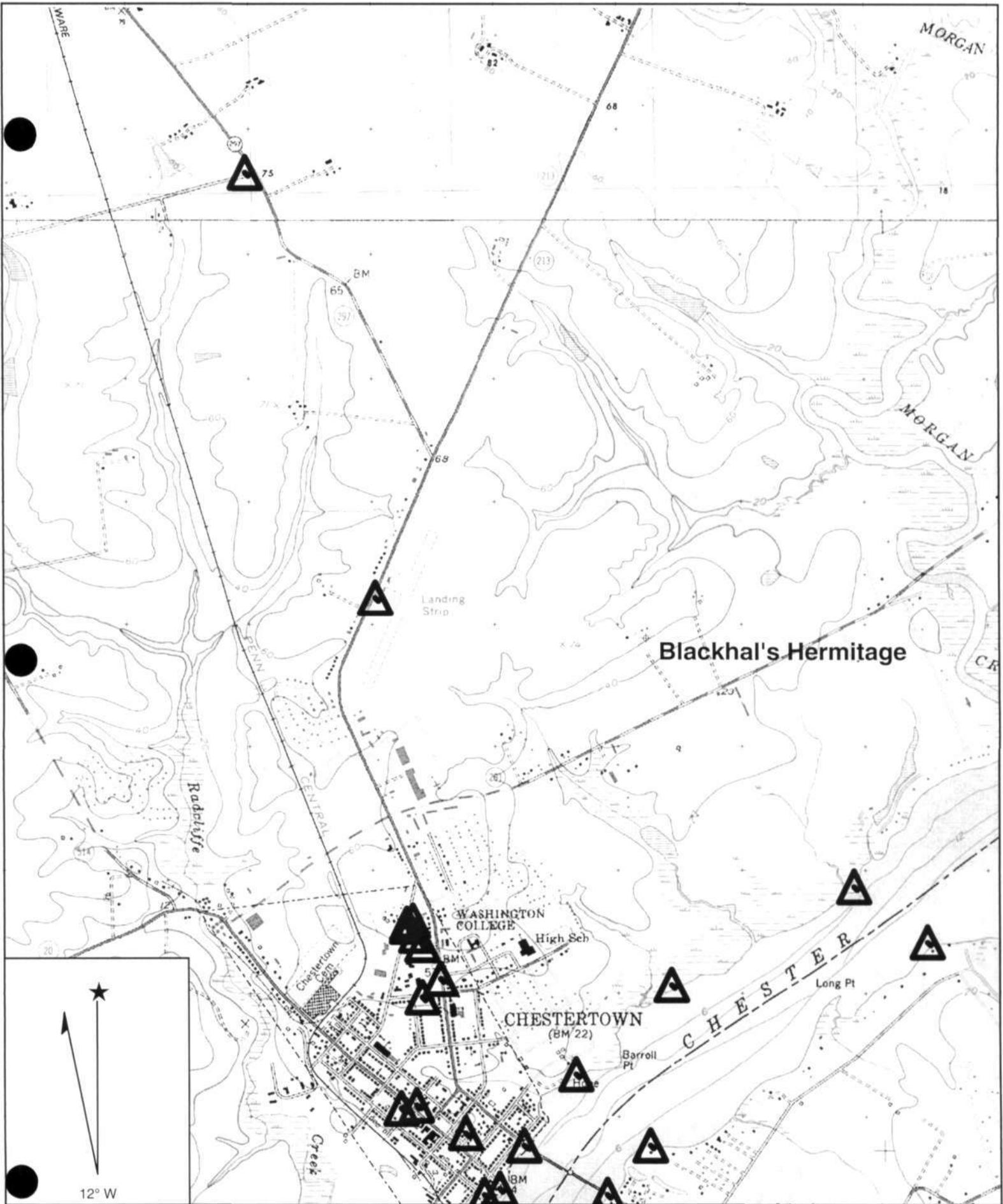
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Blackhal's Hermitage, which dated from the late 1700s, has been demolished. There is no evidence of the structure left on this site. The site is a cleared agricultural field.  
The site is not considered eligible for the NRHP.

Prepared by: Kathryn St. Clair Date Prepared: July 9, 2004

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended ___	Eligibility not recommended <u>X</u>
Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D	Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None
Comments: _____	
<u>Andrew Lewis</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>11/09/04</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR Program	<u>12/1/04</u> Date

200402572



Name: CHESTERTOWN  
 Date: 7/20/2004  
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 13' 57.80" N 076° 03' 48.71" W  
 Caption: Balckhal's Hermitage  
 K-121  
 Chestertown, MD



K-121

Blackhall's Hermitage

Kent Co., MD

Kathryn St. Clair, 06/04

NEG: MD SWPO

View looking SW from the former site of the farmhouse.

Photo 1/2



K-121

Blackhal's Hermitage

Kent Co., MD

Kathryn St. Clair, 06/04

NEG: MD SHPO

View from the empty lot looking west towards  
a wooden shed. }

Photo: 2/2

K-121

Blackhal's Hermitage  
near Chestertown  
Date?

Blackhal's Hermitage had a location similar to the adjoining Hopewell Farm, on a ridge a little less than a mile back from the Chester River. It was situated so as to look over at least half of the farm. When constructed, either in the late 1790's or early 1800's, it was similar to Boxley and Marrowbone, both three bay, 1 1/2 story dwelling. Its principal facade was laid in Flemish bond above an unmolded water table. The house was 33' long by 20'8" wide and had a hall-parlor plan with chimneys built within the rectangular plan.

In the late 19th century the house was remodeled to resemble a Gothic cottage. At that time the roof and gables were pulled off and a short second floor was built. A projecting gable with porch below was added to the river side. This addition boasted two windows in the Gothic style. While the addition may have originally been sheathed in weatherboard, shingles survived into the 1980's.

With the replacement of the fireplaces by chimney stacks, the interior space was large enough to install a center stair. A small T wing was added to the rear.

In the 1860 map printed by Simon Martinet, the property was listed in the ownership of Levi Fiddis who owned the property to the west as well. In 1877, the Atlas bears the name of Rev. T. N. Frazier. The house and all but one barn were demolished in the early 1980's to increase the area of

productive land on the farm.

BLACKHALS HERMITAGE  
Chestertown, Maryland  
(19th)

Standing on property called "Blackhals Hermitage" in the seventeenth century, is a small Gothic Revival cottage into which is incorporated the brick walls of an earlier dwelling. No early detailing survives except the Flemish brick walls which appear to have a part of a four-bay long dwelling . . . constructed during the first quarter of the 19th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

121  
K - ~~450~~

MAGI # 1504606327

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **BLACKHALS HERMITAGE**

AND/OR COMMON **Clark Farm**

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

**Marguer Road (MD 291)**

CITY, TOWN

**Chester town**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

**Maryland**

COUNTY

**Kent**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER <b>vacant</b>

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME **Robert W./Doris S. Clark**

Telephone #: **301-348-5044**

STREET & NUMBER

**Fair Promise Farm**

CITY, TOWN

**Betterton,**

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**Maryland 21610**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Kent County Court House**

Liber #: **EHP 55**

Folio #: **215**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

**Chestertown, MD 21620**

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

**Maryland Historical Trust, Survey of Kent County**

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

**Maryland Historical Trust, The Shaw House, 21 State Circle**

CITY, TOWN

**Annapolis, MD 21401**

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

K-121

**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old house on the western portion of the Clark Farm is sited on a ridge of land about one mile from the north shore of the Chester River. The view its front yard encompasses Chestertown, the River, and the treeline of Morgan Creek.

The brick walls of an early 19th century story and a half house are incorporated into this small building. Its second floor and one-and-one-half story ell probably date from the end of the last century.

The main house is four bays long and one bay deep and measures 33' X 20' 8". Flemish bond was used for the south facade where there is also a stepped water table; rear and side walls are Liverpool bond. Bricks are very regular in shape and measure 2 3/8" X 8" X 4 1/4"; three courses measure 8" vertically. The original building was divided into two rooms by a transverse brick wall and probably had a hall and parlour plan.

The entire second story of the building is frame and has a bold front gable which is two bays wide. This portion of the structure is extremely plain, having no decorative architectural moldings either at the cornice or at the windows and doors. There is a two-bay, shed roof entrance porch and similiar side porch.

Windows have 4/4 sash. In the front gable is a pair of windows with triangular upper sash. Chimneys are enclosed in the gables.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-121

**PERIOD**

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

- |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES *early 19th & later*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*This building is included in the survey because it is an early farm house. No original features except the brick walls have survived, however, and these would appear to date from the early 19th century. The incorporation of these walls into a later Gothic Revival cottage is an interesting solution to an unusual design problem.*

*According to a plat map filed in the Kent County Land Records, (7/234) this property was called "Blackhals Hermitage" and had been surveyed by 1692. For much of its history, however, this property was considered to be a part of the adjacent Hopewell (K-205).*

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# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  
*Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant*

ORGANIZATION  
*Kent County Planning Commission*

DATE  
*778-4600 ext.67*

STREET & NUMBER  
*Court House*

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN  
*Chestertown, Maryland 21620*

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Like the main house the ell is very simple; the frame portions of the structure are covered with wooden shingles. Interior detailing is extremely plain. There is an enclosed central stair.

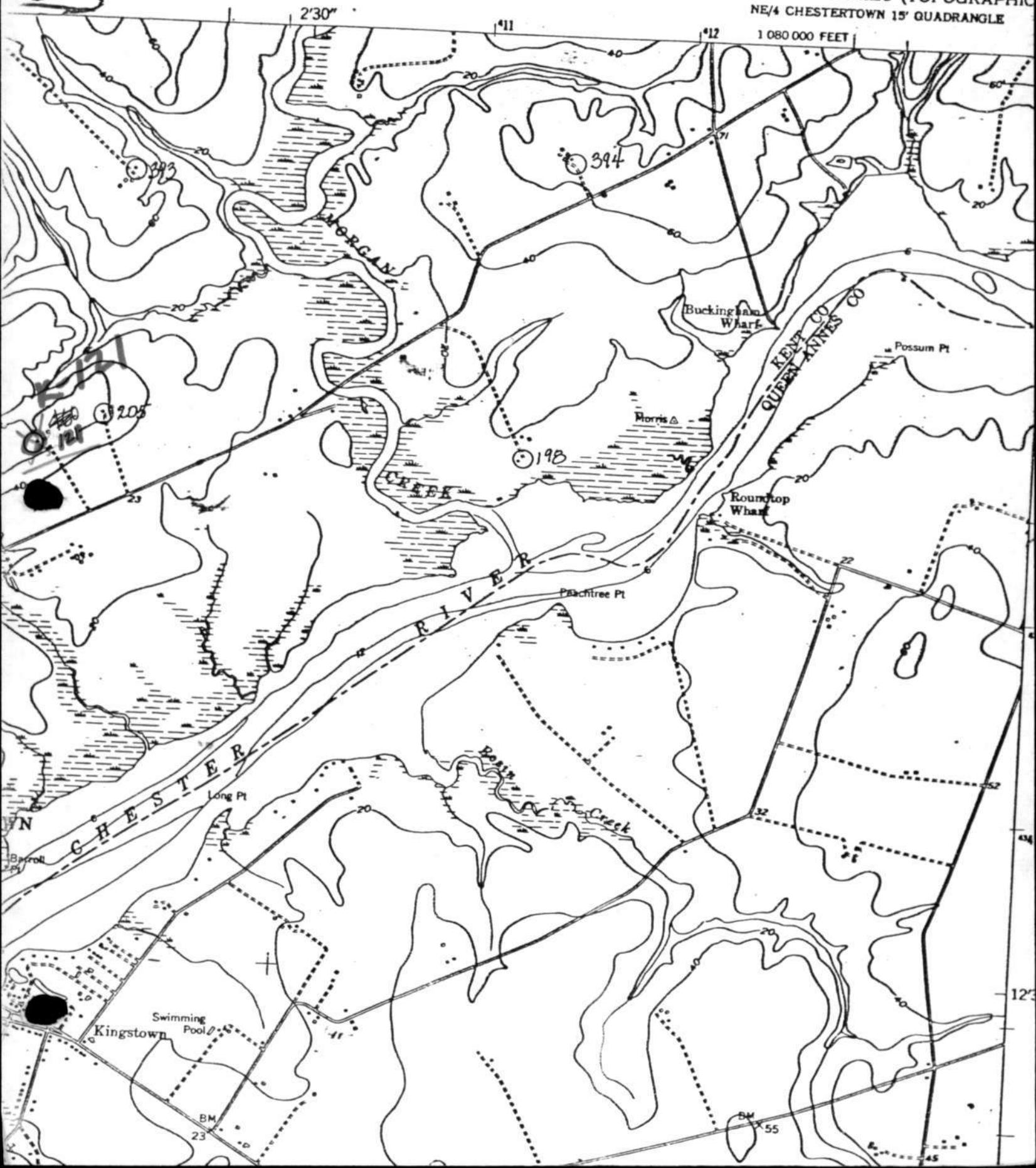
The building is vacant and deteriorating.

U.S. ARMY

K-121

CHESTERTOWN QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
NE/4 CHESTERTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

1 080 000 FEET





~~K-132~~

J. Tyler Campbell  
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER  
CHESTER, MD

JAN 15 1980

K-121

M.L. Fritz

1/1980

View from the southwest

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
LIBRARY

K-121 Blackhall's Hermitage c.1800